

## CHALLENGE TO HEDONISM

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give them names, are mainly painful Neither  
has known  
either poverty or the grinding economic  
anxiety and  
strain that undermine confidence, as they  
undermine  
health Since they discovered one another,  
neither has  
known any acute emotional stress, shock or  
loss Neither  
has any acquaintance with the acrid taste of  
failure, in  
the world's esteem, or in their own Toil,  
sweetened by  
companionship, has been made easy by  
success They  
have, throughout, been able to go their way  
in freedom  
Is it, perhaps, this relative ease of  
circumstances and of  
accommodation this feeling one gets that  
the world's  
woes, hard as they work to redress them, do  
not keep  
them awake at nights and that its more  
searching and  
tormenting problems remain largely  
unplumbed is it  
this that gives to their touch a distinct flavour  
of dry-  
unreality, and makes it natural for them to  
see people  
in categories and express them in institutions?  
To define  
what is left out is as difficult as not to be  
aware of it It  
is the standing puzzle about them, who are,  
otherwise,  
the least puzzling people in the world